

Utah State Veterans Memorial Park Board Meeting
July 29, 2015 2:00 pm

Members present:

Sanford Rosenthal

Lester Peterson

Tony Galvez

Paula Stephenson

Members excused:

Gary Harter

Staff:

Arnold Warner

Kelli Silcox

Business:

Sanford welcomed everyone to the meeting and made a motion to approved last meeting minutes, Lester 2nd the motion. Everyone was in favor to approve the last minutes. Sanford turned the meeting over to Dennis.

Dennis brought up policies at the cemetery. Dennis was speaking about the floral policy with Arnold, the issues with artificial flowers being put out on the graves. The cemetery has a policy that there are no artificial flowers between April and October. Dennis suggested that once every 2 weeks that artificial flowers are removed from the sites. Tony asked about mowing schedule, Arnold said that we have a schedule where the grounds are mowed every week on Thursdays. Sanford made a motion that it is going to be 2 weeks for artificial flowers. Paula 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Dennis asked about the cemetery policy book that he is going to have made, asked Arnold to have a photo that he would like to have put on the front. Sanford asked about phone numbers being in the policy book and Dennis asked Arnold if he would mind having his personal number in it, he has no objection.

Dennis asked if we have anything in place that the family needs to sign before a burial to state that the information is true and correct. The cemetery does not have anything like that happen and Arnold and Kelli do not feel that it is necessary. Arnold asked about new funeral service signs. Dennis approved.

Review of Fees:

Dennis explained that the cemetery fees are always as current as possible. The vases and Saturday burial fee increases have been sent in to the Legislation.

Supervisor Report:

Arnold spoke about the artificial flower policy that was already discussed earlier. He also discussed the new Niche Vases, and burial numbers.

Dennis spoke about the land to the North of the cemetery is absolutely off the table now. They are not willing to sell. He also discussed a meeting he and Gary had with a gentleman who owns a cemetery in Northern Utah. The NCA would have to approve the site and they said absolutely not. The current grounds in northern Utah has not only Hill AFB military buried there, but also civilian employees and a children's section. They will not approve. Dennis has asked about if there is anything happening with the Southern Utah National Cemetery, he has not heard as of yet where it is going. Paula is going to a National Convention and will see if she can find anything out about the NCA continuing with a cemetery in Southern Utah.

Dennis read numbers of remaining burials 1,893. The cemetery has less than that now adding in the month of July. These numbers are through June 2015. If the cemetery is doing 300 casket burials a year, the cemetery will only have 6 more years of casket burials remaining. Dennis discussed with Arnold about the possibility of getting a bid estimate for developing the land to the south of the main office and Section D to the green shed, to be developed for casket sites. Dennis moves to present DFCM cost to have shed area converted. Lester 2nd. All in favor.

Sanford brought up the Wall of Honor and speaking with someone that he has been talking to about expanding it with a donation from a company. He will have to bring him out to show him the space. Sanford also talked about the possible locations for the new Wall of Honor, on the side of the Chapel. Sanford has a friend that told him about cemeteries now putting up columns with plaques on them and then they are buried. Dennis said that he spoke to Arnold about extending the coverage with the current Wall of Honor so that it can be done in the same location. Sanford is trying to work with someone to donate their time and services to extend the Wall of Honor coverage. Lester asked about Home Depot if possibly talking to them about maybe donating at least materials for the construction of the coverage. Dennis agrees that it never hurts to ask, he will speak to someone he knows at Home Depot to see if they would be interested in that. Paula asked if it would be possible to solicit donations from big funeral homes and mortuaries or from monument companies. Arnold explained that he has already worked with them on things like that but it is for the benches and that is it. Sanford asked if Arnold could send him pictures of possible locations. Tony discussed moving George statue to the front of the cemetery and putting a large column there and it would add space and a lot of names. Sanford brought up putting the columns by the flags instead with names from the Wall of Honor that would bring more people to look, and that it would look really good and nice. Dennis asked Kelli how often there are orders for the Wall of Honor and about how many are ordered a year. There are about 15-20 ordered every year. Kelli orders them twice, once before Memorial Day and once before Veterans Day. So there are still a couple of years room left on the wall. Dennis asked about Ruby Tile and how much they quoted the cemetery, it would be over \$20,000. Sanford said that he would like Don from Ruby Tile phone number so that he can discuss the wall with him.

Other:

Everyone discussed the need for equipment at the cemetery. Have bids put in for multiple things. Main piece is a golf cart for elderly customers. Dennis suggested seeing if golf courses would donate some carts to the cemetery.

Sanford asked everyone if there was anything further. Sanford moved to adjourn. All in favor.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.